

County Administrative Office Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria Governmental & Legislative Affairs Director

March 17, 2016

The Honorable Mike Gatto Chair, Assembly Committee on Utilities and Commerce State Capitol, Room 5136 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1758 (Stone) – As introduced February 2, 2016 – SUPPORT Set for hearing March 28, 2016 in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee

Dear Chairman Gatto:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 1758, which would bring broadband internet service to unserved and underserved populations in California.

AB 1758 would authorize \$50 million each year for seven years to be collected under the existing California Advanced Services Fund through the established collection channels. In addition, it builds on the statutory goal for California to achieve broadband deployment to 98% of households. This measure also, among other things, sets an internet adoption goal of 90% of all households by 2023 and authorizes funding to assist low-income households through a coordinated grant program.

Residents without internet service are at a great disadvantage. The economic and social benefits of expanding high-speed internet service to underserved areas are incalculable, and will result in better access to information, education and job opportunities.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino respectfully requests an "Aye" vote on AB 1758. If have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs, at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely.

JAMES RAMOS

Board of Supervisors Chairman

Third District Supervisor

County of San Bernardino

CURT HAGMAN

Board of Supervisors

Fourth District Supervisor

County of San Bernardino

The Honorable Mark Stone
Honorable Members and Consultants, Utilities and Commerce Committee
County of San Bernardino Legislative Delegation